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CANADA ALBERTA

NORTH AGREEMENT

ALBERTA NORTH AGREEMENT

1977 — 1983

SUMMARY REPORT

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CANADA/ALBERTA SUBSIDIARY AGREEMENT ON ALBERTA NORTH APRIL 1, 1977 — MARCH 31, 1983

Provincial Co-ordinator's Report to Alberta North Joint Committee

Alberta
TOURISM & SMALL BUSINESS
Northern Development Branch

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Alberta
TOURISM AND SMALL BUSINESS

Office of the Minister

Room 104 Legislature Building, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T5K 2B6 403/427-3162

June 30, 1984

The Northern Development Branch of Alberta Tourism and Small Business has been responsible for project cost-share implementation of the Alberta North Agreement, 1977-83.

The Agreement has been of substantial benefit to Northern Alberta. As Provincial Co-ordinators for the Agreement, we have been encouraged by the co-operation and initiative shown by various provincial departments and DREE, and are pleased to submit this final report.

Hon. J. Allen "Boomer" Adair

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INTRODUCTION

On March 4, 1974, Canada, through the Department of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE), and Alberta, under the auspices of Federal and Intergovernmental Affairs, signed a ten-year General Development Agreement (GDA) which established a broad framework for the planning and implementation of policies and programs to foster economic and socio-economic development in Alberta.

One of the initial Subsidiary Agreements signed under the GDA was the Interim Alberta North Agreement. The Agreement provided for 50% funding by DREE of provincially designed, budgeted and implemented programs which met the mutually agreed-upon objectives of Alberta North. The $14.4 million Interim Agreement covered the period April 1, 1974 to March 31, 1978, and was signed as a mechanism to allow for the planning and implementation of projects leading up to a long-term Agreement. (For a detailed summary and rationale of the Interim Agreement, refer to Alberta North Interim Agreement Summary Report, Northern Development Branch, June, 1978.)

On February 8, 1978, Provincial and Federal Ministers signed the Canada/Alberta Subsidiary Agreement on Alberta North, 1977-83, at a ceremony in Fort Vermilion. Alberta signators were the Ministers of Tourism and Small Business and Federal and Intergovernmental Affairs; the Federal Ministers represented Regional and Economic Expansion, Indian and Northern Affairs, and Employment and Immigration. DREE and the Northern Development Branch of Alberta Tourism and Small Business were named to the administrative Joint Committee.

This second Subsidiary Agreement provided for an overlap with the Interim Agreement and was intended to be in effect from April 1, 1977 to March 31, 1982. Subsequently, through mutual consent of all parties involved, 1982-83 provincial commitments were included in the cost-sharing arrangement, with project completion dates extended to March 31, 1983. Thus, the second Agreement is referred to as the Alberta North Agreement, 1977-83.

The purpose of the 1977-83 Agreement was to realize development opportunities in the more remote areas of northern Alberta by continuing or implementing programs in the sectors of human development, community services and facilities, social adjustment and professional development, and community economic development. As with the Interim Agreement, Northern Alberta was defined as that area lying within the jurisdictional boundary of the Northern Alberta Development Council as shown on the accompanying map. Under the Agreement, up to $45 million worth of projects were cost-shared on a 50/50 basis by provincial agencies and the Federal Department of Regional Economic Expansion. An additional 10 million, 100%-federal dollars (DREE and Indian Affairs), were provided for programming on northern Indian reserves analogous to the off-reserve initiatives.

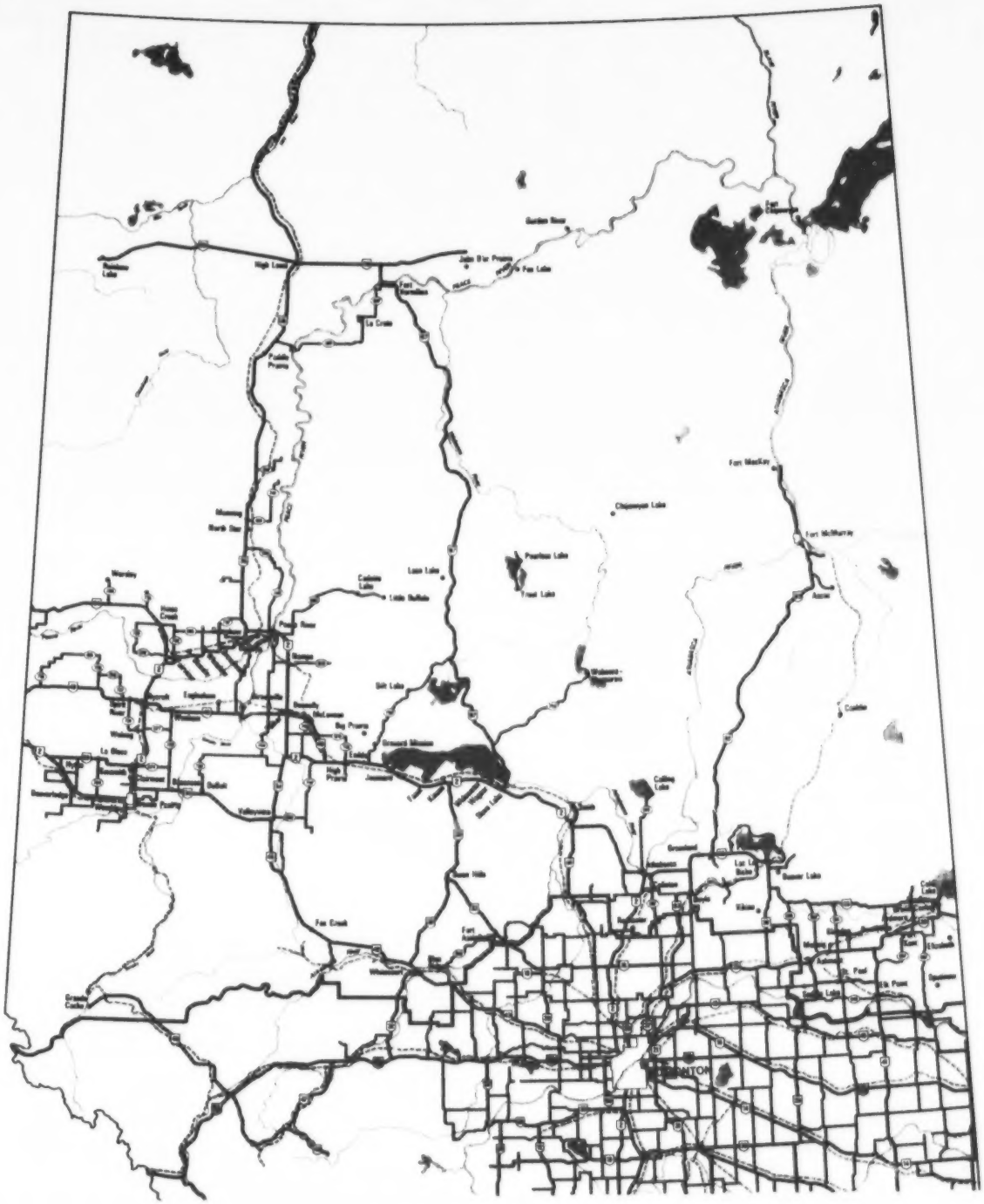
RATIONALE

The development approach proposed under the 1977-83 Agreement evolved from research and a process of experimentation and testing at the federal, provincial and local levels. The approach was built upon experience gained in northern social, economic and community services programming over the period since the late 1960s. It recognized a need for continued effort in economic development initiatives and the need to improve upon existing planning and implementation mechanisms.

Problems in remote northern Alberta communities had been the subject of much debate. Extensive discussions between senior governments and northern Albertans had resulted in the introduction of a number of social and economic programs in the remote North. Some of these programs were aimed at reducing disparity by encouraging participation in the wage economy and providing basic community infrastructure. Others were directed at the organizational problems which existed in many northern communities.

The Northern Alberta Development Council had been organized in 1963 to act as an advisory body to the Alberta Government. Particularly since its re-organization in 1973, the Council was providing people in the North with an enhanced opportunity to bring specific problems to the attention of the provincial government. In the period 1973-77, the Council held over 30 public meetings in different areas of the North and received briefs from individuals and communities addressing some 500 issues. A number of major conferences and seminars were also held. Through this consultation process, the Council identified the following areas as being in need of long-term policy and program attention: economic development, community services and organization, education, transportation and communications, and co-ordination and extension of government services.

Under the 1974-78 Interim Subsidiary Agreement on Alberta North, Canada and Alberta undertook a series of planning and development projects designed to clarify the nature of a long-term commitment aimed at northern socio-economic development. More specifically, the Interim Subsidiary Agreement provided for programs under the Life Improvement and Community Services Sector designed to provide the social, cultural, and physical environment required to assist individuals, families, and communities to take advantage of development opportunities. Steps were taken to assess needs and to assist remote communities to improve the services they were providing their residents. In addition, through the efforts of a number of federal and provincial agencies, a co-ordinated ap-



NORTHERN ALBERTA DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL AREA

COMMUNITIES WITH POPULATION OVER 75 (1981 CANADA CENSUS)

PRIMARY HIGHWAY

SECONDARY ROAD

RAILWAY

PRODUCED BY THE ALBERTA BUREAU OF SURVEYING AND MAPPING © 1983

proach to life improvement programming was developed. Under the Community Economic Development Sector, a preliminary analysis of resources and economic opportunities was completed. Pilot action was initiated to undertake a number of community and regional economic development projects and organizational structures. Efforts were made to develop an economic strategy for disadvantaged subregions in the North. Under the Planning and Management Sector, studies were co-ordinated to delineate a socio-economic profile of the North, with emphasis on the social and economic characteristics of the most underdeveloped subregions.

The Interim Subsidiary Agreement on Alberta North was complemented by an Agreement between Canada and Alberta on Northern Alberta Transportation, under which the Federal and Provincial Governments initiated a program to provide road access to the extensive forestry resources in north-central Alberta, as well as to improve air and road access for the isolated communities in the North. This transportation activity was continued and expanded under the 1976-77 Northern Alberta Transportation Agreement, cost-shared by DREE, Transport Canada and Alberta Transportation.

Given the complex nature of northern development, further programming within a long-term framework was required. The initiatives and planning undertaken through the four-year Interim Agreement resulted in some progress toward the objectives of the Agreement. In general, the programs displayed in the 1977-83 Agreement were intended to continue work toward similar objectives in a manner that was consistent with a development approach which places increased emphasis on community involvement within the context of regional, provincial and national policies.

SUMMARY OF CIRCUMSTANCES

Three distinct socio-economic groups were noted to exist in northern Alberta: **the agricultural north,** with over 50% of the North's population directly or indirectly dependent upon agriculture; the **resource north,** based upon energy extraction and exploitation of forest resources; and the **remote north,** people essentially of Native or Métis ancestry living in the small, isolated northern communities, on Métis Settlements and on Indian Reserves.

Of the some 230,000 people living in northern Alberta, the majority were immigrants from the south who had been attracted by job and development opportunities related to the region's resources. Over the past 75 years, they had put in place what are largely southern political, social, and industrial development patterns. People in both the agricultural north and the resource north were for the most part gaining access to developing northern opportunities.

By contrast, the people of the remote north had been largely by-passed by development in the North. Their traditional occupations of fishing, hunting and trapping provided limited and unreliable annual incomes. This fact, in combination with their inability to gain access to other opportunities, and their social and physical isolation, had limited their participation in ongoing and newly emerging northern development opportunities.

Unemployment and welfare dependency in the remote north was not expected to lessen during the following five years. In particular, the Native population was expected to increase by over 14% between 1977 and 1982, with 50% of the population being under 15 years of age. If current social and economic conditions prevailed, levels of unemployment and welfare dependency could be expected to increase by at least 20% in the forthcoming five years.

Northern Alberta was at a critical stage in its development, both in terms of determining future patterns of utilization of its resources and the role of disadvantaged northerners in the future economic and social life of the region. Current and projected major development projects in the energy, forestry, agriculture, tourism, construction and services sectors were expected to create 14,500 new jobs between 1976 and 1981. If a significant number of new jobs was made accessible to residents of remote communities, their income and employment situation would be improved.

Experience indicated that people in the remote north would consider relocating to jobs within their home subregion if they were provided with relocation assistance. Experience also indicated that migration to other subregions was not a realistic alternative for most residents of remote communities at the time. Any development approach would have to be structured to allow selective initiatives to be aimed at the human and resource potential of each subregion.

Potentially, a wide range of options was available for northerners to participate in the development of their subregion. Job creation, based upon capturing spin-off opportunities from major resource development and upon exploiting local resources, would offer significant opportunities for increasing labor force participation. It was imperative that initiatives be undertaken which would make these options and opportunities real and within the grasp of the residents of the remote north.

AGREEMENT OBJECTIVES

The purpose of the 1977-83 Alberta North Agreement was to maintain and enhance socio-economic development in northern Alberta. The objectives developed for the long-term Agreement were in keeping with the strategy and objectives of the Canada/Alberta General Development Agreement and with the projected needs in northern Alberta over the 1977-83 period. These objectives were:

- To provide options and opportunities for the people of northern Alberta to contribute to and participate in the development of the region
- To initiate those social and cultural amenities, community infrastructure improvements and services required to enable the people in northern Alberta to participate in northern development
- To encourage the orderly development of northern Alberta for the benefit of the inhabitants and the Province

The objectives were pursued through the implementation of projects in five program areas.

PROGRAM 1 Human Development

This program was designed to provide a process through which individuals and families could make informal decisions regarding their future. Projects provided individuals with the opportunities to develop life skills and attitudes that are prerequisites for entry into socio-economic opportunities.

PROGRAM 2 Community Services and Facilities

This program was an essential supporting mechanism to the Human Development Program. It assisted communities, individuals and families to establish a healthy and safe environment within which they could live and plan for the future.

PROGRAM 3 Community Services and Facilities — Indian Reserves

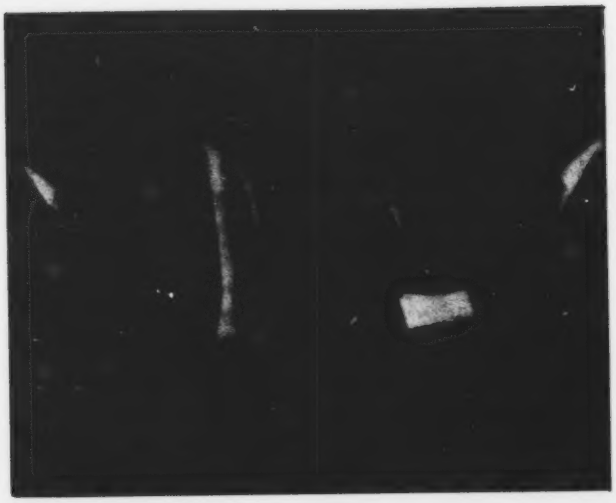
This program was identical to Program 2 except that it provided for programming on Indian Reserves and was cost-shared by DREE and the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs.

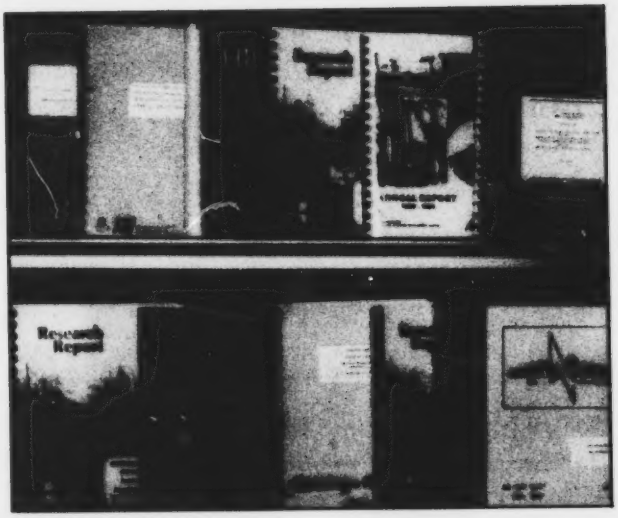
PROGRAM 4 Social Adjustment and Professional Development

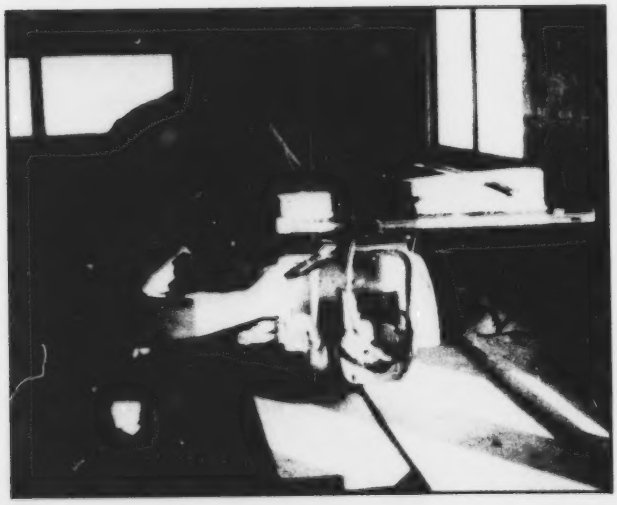
This program assisted individuals and families who had decided to move from the remote communities to training and/or employment opportunities. Program activities complemented existing programs by providing special social adjustment counselling and by increasing opportunities for residents of remote communities to gain entry into paraprofessional and professional careers.

PROGRAM 5 Community Economic Development

This program assisted individuals, groups and community organizations to identify socio-economic opportunities and to formulate development proposals and gain socio-economic experience in the local setting.







ADMINISTRATION

A Joint Committee, composed of the Executive Director of the Northern Development Branch, Alberta Tourism & Small Business and the provincial Director-General of Regional Economic Expansion, was responsible for the overall management of the Agreement. The Joint Committee's duties included: responsibility for the approval, adjustment and amendment of projects; establishment of administrative procedures; intergovernmental co-ordination; policy initiation of environmental assessments when required; public relations and recommendations to respective Ministers on program amendments.

All projects to be cost-shared in Programs 1, 2, 4 and 5 were jointly approved by the Province and Canada through the Joint Committee. All projects implemented through Program 3, Community Services and Facilities — Indian Reserves, required only the approval of Canada's representatives (DREE and Indian Affairs) with notification to Alberta through the Joint Committee.

The Province, through the Northern Development Branch, was responsible for the implementation of all jointly-approved projects. The Branch assisted provincial line agencies in developing and submitting project proposals and was responsible for field monitoring and reports to the Joint Committee on on-going projects.

Canada, through the Department of Regional Economic Expansion, was responsible for effecting liaison and program co-ordination among those federal government departments and agencies whose activities affected the implementation of the Agreement. As circumstances arose, DREE also assumed additional responsibilities for conducting reviews and analyses as required by the Joint Committee.

The Joint Committee undertook various public relations activities including publication of **Onsite**, a news supplement on Agreement projects and various project openings involving Provincial and Federal Ministers. A major external mid-term assessment of the Agreement by Co-West and Associates was also completed and cost-shared by the Joint Committee in 1980.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Funding authorization for the Alberta North Agreement, 1977-83 was contained in two Schedules. Tables 1-5 outline authorized costs, claims to the Federal Government, net cash flow and a financial summary by project.

As shown in Table 1, Schedule "B" provided for $45 million of 50/50 cost-shared, provincially designed and administered projects in four program areas.

TABLE 1

SCHEDULE "B"
AUTHORIZED COSTS 1977 - 83
($ 000's)

		Total Federal Share	Total Provincial Share	5 Year Total Costs
Program 1	Human Development	$10,235	$10,235	$20,470
Program 2	Community Services & Facilities	8,300	8,300	16,600
Program 4	Social Adjustment & Professional Development	1,475	1,475	2,950
Program 5	Community Economic Development	2,490	2,490	4,980
	Total	$22,500	$22,500	$45,000

The Province proposed and tabled, over the term of the Agreement, 22 projects for cost-sharing under Schedule "B", resulting in a net cash flow to the Province of $22,254,150.21 from the Federal Government. This represents a 98.9% recovery of funds as displayed in Table 2. Total project funding was provided by the implementing provincial line agencies, and the federal cost recovery dollars went directly to the General Revenue Fund of Alberta Treasury.

TABLE 2

SCHEDULE "B"
CLAIMS/
NET CASH FLOW/
PERCENTAGE RECOVERY from FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
1977 - 83
($ 000's)

		Total Federal Share	Total Claims Submitted	Net Cash Flow	Percentage Recovery
Program 1	Human Development	$10,235	$10,235	$10,232	99.9%
Program 2	Community Services & Facilities	8,300	8,300	8,300	100.0%
Program 4	Social Adjustment & Professional Development	1,475	1,475	1,422	96.4%
Program 5	Community Economic Development	2,490	2,490	2,300	92.4%
	Total	$22,500	$22,500	$22,254	98.9%

Table 3 provides a project-by-project summary of authorized funding levels, funds claimed and net cash flow from the Federal Government.

TABLE 3

SCHEDULE "B"
FINANCIAL SUMMARY BY PROJECT
1977 - 83

	Authorized	Total Claims Submitted	Net Cash Flow
Program 1			
Opportunity Corps	6,400,000.00	6,400,000.00	6,400,000.00
School Food Services	2,500,000.00	2,500,000.00	2,500,000.00
Education North	700,000.00	700,000.00	696,700.61
Management Development	635,000.00	635,000.00	635,000.00
	10,235,000.00	10,235,000.00	10,231,700.61
Program 2			
NSF Sewer	289,880.08	289,880.08	289,880.08
NSF Water	720,000.00	720,000.00	720,000.00
Northern Water Supply	506,875.72	506,875.72	506,875.72
Internal Roads	3,370,000.00	3,370,000.00	3,370,000.00
Metis Settlement Housing	925,000.00	925,000.00	925,000.00
Isolated Communities Log Housing	632,782.22	632,782.22	632,782.22
Land Tenure	356,338.84	356,338.84	356,338.84
Rural Electrification	420,942.62	420,942.62	420,942.62
Electrification Isolated Communities	37,500.00	37,500.00	37,500.00
Natural Gas Supply	1,040,680.52	1,040,680.52	1,040,680.52
	8,300,000.00	8,300,000.00	8,300,000.00
Program 4			
Employment Relocation Counselling	1,015,938.57	1,015,938.57	962,993.79
Native Outreach	459,061.43	459,061.43	459,061.43
	1,475,000.00	1,475,000.00	1,422,055.22
Program 5			
Cold Lake Baseline	14,500.00	14,500.00	14,500.00
Rural Development Projects	292,825.00	292,825.00	292,825.00
Research/Development Assistance	596,493.05	596,493.05	577,118.07
Economic Development — Métis Settlements	938,234.73	938,234.73	860,734.73
Lesser Slave Lake Area	300,000.00	300,000.00	300,000.00
Economic Development — Native Associations	347,947.22	347,947.22	255,216.58
	2,490,000.00	2,490,000.00	2,300,394.38
Total	$22,500,000.00	$22,500,000.00	$22,254,150.21

An additional $10 million worth of projects in the area of community services and facilities was to be implemented on northern Alberta Indian Reserves under Schedule "C". This program was cost-shared between the Department of Regional Economic Expansion and the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs (DINA) as shown in Table 4.

TABLE 4

SCHEDULE "C"
AUTHORIZED DREE/DINA COSTS
1977 - 83
($ 000's)

		DREE	DINA	5 Year Total Costs
Program 3	Indian Reserves Community Services & Facilities	$5,000	$5,000	$10,000
	Total	$5,000	$5,000	$10,000

Program 3 of the Agreement, Community Services and Facilities — Indian Reserves, was designed to complement the similar off-Reserve initiatives in Program 2. There was no direct provincial co-ordinating responsibility for Program 3; consequently, the only details reported in this Summary Report are contained in Table 5.

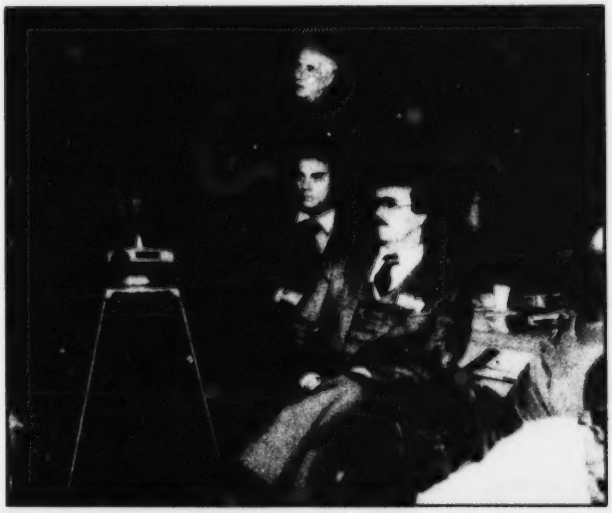
TABLE 5

SCHEDULE "C"
DREE/DINA FINANCIAL SUMMARY BY PROJECT
1977 - 83

Program 3

Water Supply	4,886,667.88
Internal Access Roads	2,122,618.00
Physical Planning	597,016.90
Flood Control	223,360.68
Power Supply	316,636.00
Sanitary Services	701,000.00
Fire Protection & Road	745,500.00
Total	$9,592,799.46

'80s
ALBERTA NORTH



SUMMARY OF PROJECTS

PROGRAM 1: HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

The projects cost-shared under Program 1, Human Development, were designed to provide a process through which individuals and families could make informed decisions regarding their future. Projects provided individuals with the opportunity to develop life skills and attitudes that are prerequisites for entry into socio-economic opportunities.

OPPORTUNITY CORPS

The objective of the Opportunity Corps was to provide basic life and work skills orientation through counselling and short-term employment relevant to training programs or jobs available within an immediate area. The Corps attempted to provide enhanced options and opportunities for remote inhabitants to contribute to and participate in the economic and social development of the region. In addition, the project attempted to encourage community betterment through self-identification of needs and self-help. Sponsoring communities provided the materials for particular projects, while the Corps provided the labor.

During the term of the Agreement, the Opportunity Corps operated from five regional centres: Slave Lake, Janvier, Ft. McMurray, Ft. Vermilion and High Level. The following is a sample of major community projects completed on a yearly basis.

1978/1979

Calling Lake and Area:
- — senior citizens home repair and maintenance
- — clearing and home site preparation (four)
- — preparation and milling of trees for log housing program

Fort McMurray and Area:
- — construction of campsite and recreation area for City
- — construction of skating rink
- — renovations to the Fish and Game Association building
- — renovations to the Lions Park equipment

Fort Vermilion and Area:
- — construction of toys and furniture for Legion Hall
- — renovation and upgrading of St. Mary's School
- — logging and milling of trees for log housing program
- — renovation and upgrading of senior citizens housing

High Prairie/Peace River and Area:
- — senior citizens home repair and improvement
- — renovations and repairs to High River Native Friendship Centre
- — construction of bookcases for the Peace River Health Unit

Peerless Lake/Trout Lake and Area:
- — construction and completion of recreation centre
- — fencing of Graham Lake airstrip
- — construction of campground and picnic area

Slave Lake and Area:
- — painting of Slave Lake Fire Hall
- — construction of five rural log homes
- — framing and renovations to the St. Peter's Anglican Church

Wabasca:
- — construction of four rural log homes
- — clearing of land tenure lots
- — clearing of roadways

1979/1980

Calling Lake:
- — site clearing for Opportunity Corps workshop
- — construction of four rural log homes

Fort Chipewyan:
- — upgrading of community cemetery
- — construction of picnic tables
- — construction of storage shed for Social Services and Community Health

Fort McMurray:
- — renovation of SPCA building
- — renovation of Detox. Centre
- — completion of power cut line
- — construction of minor league baseball facility

Fort Vermilion:
- — renovation and upgrading of Legion Hall
- — clearing and site preparation for gardening lots
- — construction of storage building for Recreation Board
- — construction of bookcases for CVC

High Prairie/Peace River and Area:
- — construction of the High Prairie Elks Stampede Grounds
- — construction and erection of fencing for High Prairie recreational grounds
- — construction of furniture for Peace River Health Unit and Native Counselling Services
- — construction of four frame houses in Little Buffalo

Peerless Lake/Trout Lake and Area:
- — renovation and upgrading of senior citizens housing
- — construction of community workshop
- — renovation and upgrading of Preschool building

Slave Lake and Area:
- — construction of jockey boxes and bicycle racks
- — construction of Widewater Fire Hall
- — construction of Kinuso Skating Rink

Wabasca and Area:
- — construction of 13 homes for Big Stone Band

— assistance in construction of the Big Stone Band School
— renovation and upgrading of Public Works Services Centre
— completion of mill work for Big Stone Band

1980/1981

Calling Lake and Area:
— construction of four rural log homes
— construction of picnic area

Fort Chipewyan and Area:
— renovation and upgrading of Cree Band office
— renovation and upgrading of 12 Cree Band log homes

Fort McMurray and Area:
— construction of furniture for the Native Friendship Centre
— construction of outdoor skating rink
— assistance in construction of the United Church
— landscaping of Legion grounds
— renovation and upgrading of Heritage Park

Fort Vermilion and Area:
— construction of furniture for Adult Education
— renovation and upgrading of the Roman Catholic Church
— construction of antique equipment and toys for Historical Society

High Prairie/Peace River and Area:
— construction of picnic tables for the High Prairie Ukrainian Society and Joussard Sports Association
— renovation and upgrading of the St. Andrew playground
— construction of the High Prairie recreational ball diamond
— construction of the High Prairie skating rink

Peerless Lake/Trout Lake and Area:
— construction and erection of fences for land tenure program
— construction of four frame houses
— construction of eight rural log houses
— clearing and preparation for gardening program

Slave Lake and Area:
— construction of Slave Lake washroom facilities
— construction of furniture for AADAC
— renovation and upgrading of Joussard Senior Citizens Centre
— construction of washroom facilities for ambulance garage

Wabasca and Area:
— construction of four rural log houses in Sandy Lake
— renovation and upgrading of the Wabasca Health Unit building
— construction of concrete sidewalks

1981/1982

Calling Lake and Area:
— construction of five rural log houses

Fort Chipewyan and Area:
— renovation of 10 Chipewyan Band houses
— construction of five Delta Housing log houses
— construction of Metis Association office building
— renovation of skating rink
— construction of garage for Alberta Transportation

Fort McMurray and Area:
— restoration of Ryan Building Historical Site
— assistance in the United Church construction
— renovation of the Lutheran Church
— construction of furniture for daycare

Fort Vermilion and Area:
— construction of the Fort Vermilion Recreation Complex
— construction of the Wadlin Lake Park Site
— construction of picnic tables and boat launch
— construction and erection of Board of Trade sign
— construction for the Adult Education Complex

High Prairie/Peace River and Area:
— construction of picnic tables for the Prairie Echo Community Association
— construction of furniture for Joussard Homesteaders Association
— sewing of linen for High Prairie Daycare Centre
— construction of furniture for St. Andrew's School

Peerless Lake/Trout Lake and Area:
— construction of Trout Lake Skating Rink
— construction and renovation of six senior citizens homes
— construction of four frame houses

Slave Lake and Area:
— brushing and clearing of Slave Lake ski runs
— renovation and upgrading of Slave Lake Daycare Centre
— painting of Slave Lake ambulance garage
— construction of concrete drill pad for army cadets

Wabasca and Area:
— construction and erection of municipal sign
— construction of footings and foundation of Big Stone Band office
— clearing of right-of-way for Alberta Power
— renovation and upgrading of court house for Public Works

1982/1983

Calling Lake and Area:
— construction of five log housing units
— construction of sidewalks and pathways for access to

Calling Lake Beach
— renovation and upgrading of senior citizens homes

Fort Chipewyan and Area:
— renovation and upgrading of six Chipewyan Band houses
— construction of six rural houses
— renovation and upgrading of six Cree Band houses

Fort McMurray and Area:
— clearing and construction of area ski facilities
— renovation and upgrading of Heritage Park
— construction of recreational equipment for City playgrounds
— renovation and upgrading of Lion's Club facilities

Fort Vermilion and Area:
— construction of garage for Fairview College in Fort Vermilion
— renovation and upgrading of St. Bernadette's Church
— renovation and upgrading of St. Luke Anglican Church
— construction of storage unit for Fort Vermilion Play School

High Prairie/Peace River and Area:
— renovations to senior citizens homes in Peace River
— construction and upgrading of Special Needs building
— construction of furniture for Peace River School Division
— construction and upgrading of facilities at St. Bernard Mission

Peerless Lake/Trout Lake and Area:
— repair and renovations of senior citizens homes
— painting of CVC building
— falling and milling of trees for log house program
— fencing and maintenance of Trout Lake community pasture

Slave Lake and Area:
— construction of wheel chair ramps in local schools
— renovation and upgrading of senior citizens homes
— renovation and upgrading of Lion's Club facilities
— renovation and upgrading of Legion Hall

Wabasca and Area:
— construction of three pre-fab houses
— construction of furniture for Wabasca Recreation Centre
— upgrading of Wabasca ball diamond
— renovation and upgrading of Alberta Forestry facilities

Tables 6 and 7 provide a statistical review of the five-year period of operations for the Opportunity Corps.

The program provided useful ongoing life and work skills training to 2,771 remote northerners, 31% of whom graduated to permanent employment and/or further educational opportunities.

TABLE 6

OPPORTUNITY CORPS
TRAINEES 1978 - 83

	78/79	79/80	80/81	81/82	82/83	Total
Trainees Through Corps	500	556	564	615	536	2771
Trainees Terminated*	150	153	165	160	142	770
Trainees Dropped Out	200	235	222	264	219	1140
Trainees To School	20	28	25	41	31	145
Trainees To Employment	130	140	152	150	144	716

TABLE 7

AVERAGE ANNUAL RATES
1978 - 83

	Number	Percentage
Trainees Through Corps	554.2	
Trainees Terminated*	154.0	27.8%
Trainees Dropped Out	228.0	41.2%
Trainees To School	29.0	5.2%
Trainees To Employment	143.2	25.8%

* Trainees Terminated: includes trainees released from the Corps due to: completion of year program, lack of interest and work habits, and related problems.

Implementing Agency: Alberta Manpower
Program Expenditure 1977 - 83: $12,800,000

SCHOOL FOOD SERVICES

In January, 1973, Alberta Native organizations met with the Premier and several members of the Provincial Cabinet. Two of the issues raised at the meeting were: a concern for the nutritional needs of Native children and a desire for more local input into government programs delivered in the remote communities of northern Alberta.

The government directed the Métis Development Branch to respond to these needs. (The program was subsequently transferred to Alberta Education in 1981). The direction given was to deliver a school-based nutritional maintenance program and, at the same time, capitalize on the opportunity to initiate some innovative life skill development activities in the program communities. This was accomplished through the development of a local management and training component to assist in the planning and implementation of the nutritional program. The innovative component identified and reinforced the existing leadership structure and local decision-making process. The mechanism utilized was an operating agreement between the community and the School Food Services Branch, which placed most of the responsibility for the day-to-day operations of the program in the hands of a locally-elected community committee.

During the 1977-83 Agreement, the cost-sharing project expanded to 29 communities. Approximately 100 local people were employed, with an average total monthly payroll of $35,000. The community residents filled jobs as cooks, helpers, handymen, bookkeepers and truck drivers. Employees worked from three to six hours each school day, with time varying according to the size of the program.

The local employees were given intensive training before assuming their duties and were retrained as required. Within a short period of time, most of these employees were able to prepare time certificates and payroll documentation and make payment for food orders and utilities, as well as maintain proper records. Training was also provided in:

- food preparation
- food serving
- sanitation and proper clean-up methods
- personal hygiene
- food ordering
- stock inventory control
- nutrition

At the end of the Agreement period, approximately 3,200 lunches were being served per school day at an average cost per lunch of $2.98 in the following communities:

BIG PRAIRIE
BLUE RIDGE
CADOTTE LAKE
CALLING LAKE
CASLAN
CHIPEWYAN LAKE
CONKLIN
EAST PRAIRIE
ELIZABETH
FAUST
FORT CHIPEWYAN
FORT VERMILION (P)
FORT VERMILION (S)
GIFT LAKE
GRANDE CACHE
GROUARD
JANVIER
JOUSSARD
KIKINO
LITTLE BUFFALO
LOON LAKE
PADDLE PRAIRIE
PEERLESS LAKE
RICH LAKE
SPUTINOW (FISHING LAKE)
TROUT LAKE
WABASCA
SANDY LAKE
WHITEFISH

An assessment of the School Lunch Program shows that there have been many beneficial effects on the communities involved:

- The nutritional health of the local students has improved considerably
- Employment has been provided in the local community setting
- Work habits of the employees have improved to a great extent
- The employees have learned about the value of nutrition, sanitation, menus and food preparation, and this has some transferability to other job opportunities and the community at large
- The community is now better able to work together at a committee level to resolve problems
- There is an increased awareness, on the part of the teachers, of the need for nutrition education in the schools

From the initiation of the project there was a large increase in the confidence level of the local community committees. The committees displayed growing assurance in solving day-to-day problems. Also a number of the graduates of the management and training programs went on to further employment with oil and exploration companies as camp cooks, and into administrative and bookkeeping positions with other employers.

Implementing Agency: Alberta Education
Program Expenditure 1977 - 83: $5,000,000.00

EDUCATION NORTH

The Education North Project (Phase II) was initiated under the Alberta North Agreement in 1978 as a strategy for improving community life and solving some of the education-related problems of northern remote communities. The project drew upon the findings of a number of reports on Native education, which the Province had co-ordinated in response to expressions of need by community members and educators in northern Alberta.

Education North was designed to encourage community members to work with local schools in improving educational programs for school-aged children, and to help participants develop leadership skills. The project was based on a local education society strategy, with specific objectives to:

- Develop increased parental support and community commitment to schooling by direct and active involve-

ment in the local school's operation
- Implement a program to encourage long-term participation by adults in community educational activities
- Develop an ongoing orientation program for teachers, with a view to improving teacher retention, community relations skills and classroom performance
- Identify, collect, develop, produce and disseminate localized educational materials
- Redesign aspects of curricula content if necessary

The organizational structure of the local societies was shaped by the following considerations:

- A Minister's Advisory Committee made up of representatives from Alberta Education, Advanced Education, the Native Secretariat, the Northern Alberta Development Council and private citizens from northern Alberta established, funded and set the broad operational guidelines for local societies
- A provincial Education North Office was established in High Prairie to provide consultative staff to assist and advise the societies
- The local society was allowed to receive and spend public funds, independent of the local school authority

A pre-condition, however, for the initiation of activity in an area, was the willingness of the school district, as expressed by Board Resolution, to participate in the project. Some of the guidelines were:

- The school system was delivering services in communities that did not have autonomous local municipal government
- The school system was operating schools in a number of communities where considerable numbers of students came from homes with a low socio-economic base
- The school system had geographically dispersed communities, remote from its central office
- The school personnel demonstrated the capability to deliver innovative types of programs and were willing to work with other agencies to effect change
- The school board demonstrated a willingness to develop policy and help implement programs for involvement of community people in operating the local school

During the period of the Agreement, nine local education societies were in operation, at Atikameg, Fort Chipewyan, Fort Vermilion, Lac La Biche, Little Red River, Slave Lake, Wabasca-Desmarais, Calling Lake and La Crete.

Each of these societies organized projects and activities in their schools and communities with varying degrees of success. Typical activities for children and adults included arts and crafts (leatherwork, beading, art displays), cultural enrichment (music, drama, guest performers or speakers), sports (outdoor education, curling, skating, snowshoeing, fitness classes), heritage awareness (local history research, collection of local stories), improvements to the school (student newspaper, library resources, purchase of equipment) and parental involvement in the classroom (craft instruction, recreation for lunchtime). Some communities focussed on one specific project while others operated numerous projects under the general direction of the society.

Implementing Agency: Alberta Education
Program Expenditure 1977 - 83: $1,393,401.22

DEVELOPMENT OF MANAGEMENT CAPABILITIES

The Development of Management Capabilities Project emphasized local accountability and responsibility in the delivery of programs to enhance the social and economic conditions of the eight Métis Settlements in northern Alberta. The long-range objective of the activities was to insure that the same services and facilities were provided to the Settlements of Big Prairie, Caslan, East Prairie, Elizabeth, Fishing Lake, Gift Lake, Kikino and Paddle Prairie, as were being provided to all other Albertans.

In developing a management enhancement program, the Métis Development Branch placed emphasis on the four areas of:

Five-Year Development Plans

Development plans were initiated for each of the Settlements to ensure an awareness of the needs that were to be accommodated in detailed planning, such as water and sewer, housing, roads, electricity, etc. Provision of services was examined in the context of proper community planning and cost effectiveness. Economic and social development needs were also assessed.

Financial Planning

In establishing each of the five-year plans, the Settlements were required to priorize needs in relation to the various budgets available to them. The Settlements expressed the desire to have more control over their finances, but recognized that wise fiscal management is an acquired skill which involves time and developmental training. Sessions on budget planning and control were held in each Settlement and Settlement Councils were generally receptive to the idea of increased responsibility and involvement in financial planning.

Local Administration Training

As a supportive mechanism to the planning process and budgetary responsibilities, training sessions were carried out emphasizing administrative and personal skills development. Topics included budgeting procedures and expenditures, time management, decision-making process, problem solving, planning process, proposal writing and the role of the elected councillor. Course evaluations were very positive and reflected a desire for an increase in the number of seminars and their level of sophistication.

Settlement Services

As well as the provision of basic municipal services, each Settlement's concerns for further agricultural, economic, educational, social, cultural and recreational services were outlined. Major emphasis was placed on economic opportunities, resulting in some 25 cost-shared

projects being undertaken under the terms of the Agreement. Details of the various projects are listed under the Community Economic Development sections of this report. In addition to direct economic development projects, the various Settlement Councils planned and initiated a number of major activities including:

- Water and sewer programs for Caslan, Fishing Lake, Gift Lake, Kikino and Paddle Prairie
- Maintenance and upgrading of approximately 560 km of roads and streets
- Maintenance and operation of recreational facilities on all eight Settlements

Implementing Agency: Alberta Municipal Affairs
Program Expenditures 1977 - 83: $1,279,000

PROGRAM 2: COMMUNITY SERVICES AND FACILITIES

Projects cost-shared under Program 2, Community Services and Facilities, were an essential supporting mechanism to the Human Development Program. They assisted communities, individuals and families to establish a healthy and safe environment in which they could live and plan for the future.

NORTHERN SUPPLEMENTARY FUND FOR SEWER

The purpose of this project was to assist the larger, well-established remote communities to construct or upgrade adequate sewage collection, treatment and distribution facilities. Where normal local and provincial funding still left an unbearable cost, supplementary gap funding was made available to remote northern communities based on the following factors:

- Low tax base
- Excessive construction costs
- Inability of communities to carry heavy debt load
- Serious and long-standing requirements
- Community characterized by a degree of remoteness or isolation
- A minimum population of 250
- A potential for economic growth
- Land tenure held by most residents

The Northern Supplementary Fund project implemented 16 community sewage programs during the fiscal years 1977-83. These included Fort Vermilion, Calling Lake, Desmarais, Fishing Lake, Fort Chipewyan, Gift Lake, Grouard, Joussard, Kikino, Paddle Prairie, Smith, Wabasca, Wandering River, Watino, Woking and Worsley.

However, owing to the limited level of funding approved for cost-sharing in Program 2, as per Schedule "B" of the Alberta North Agreement, DREE was required to discontinue its cost-sharing after the first project in Fort Vermilion. The Fort Vermilion project provided extensive upgrading of treatment and collection facilities.

Implementing Agency: Alberta Environment
Program Expenditure 1977 - 83: $579,760.16

NORTHERN SUPPLEMENTARY FUND FOR WATER

Gap funding and cost-sharing by the Joint Committee for this water treatment and distribution project was based on the same criteria as previously outlined for the Northern Supplementary Fund for Sewer.

The program implemented 19 community water projects during 1977-83. Communities included were La Crete, Anzac, Caslan, Desmarais, Fishing Lake, Fort Chipewyan, Fort Vermilion, Gift Lake, Janvier, Joussard, Kikino, Paddle Prairie, Sandy Lake, Smith, Wabasca, Wandering River, Widewater, Woking and Worsley.

The La Crete project, involving a water pipeline and treatment facilities, was the only one approved for cost-sharing, again, owing to the limited level of funding available in Program 2.

Implementing Agency: Alberta Environment
Project Expenditure 1977 - 83: $1,400,000.00

NORTHERN WATER SUPPLY

The purpose of the Northern Water Supply project was to provide a potable water source in the unorganized communities of the North where such facilities did not exist. Wells were dug where groundwater supplies were inadequate or unsuitable, and distribution through water delivery points was established if the pattern of settlement permitted economically feasible development of water lines. Where pipe systems were not feasible, a trucking system to cisterns was utilized. All wells developed under the project were to be accessible to the people of the area, even though they might be located on individual holdings. Dugouts for water storage and treatment plants were also developed, in some cases, where wells were not suitable.

Over the project's period of operation, 562 wells were completed, five treatment plants and three major cisterns constructed and three water tank/truck hauling services implemented.

Significant projects cost-shared included:

1978-1979

- Completion of 25 water wells in East Prairie, Caslan, Kikino, Elizabeth and Fishing Lake
- Development of a climatized cistern for use in northern isolated communities
- Completion of a treatment plant feasibility study for Loon Lake
- Upgrading of Wabasca-Desmarais cisterns

1979-1980

- Construction of the Loon Lake Treatment Plant
- Construction of the Enilda water storage facilities
- Completion of 53 wells in Caslan, Chipewyan Lakes, Elinor Lake, Elizabeth, Fishing Lake, Graham, Kikino, Owl River, Peerless Lake, Wapiti and Treenan

1980-1981

- Upgrading of treatment plants in Calling Lake, Loon Lake and Gift Lake
- Completion of 10 wells in East Prairie, Caslan, Fishing Lake and Trout Lakes

Implementing Agency: Alberta Environment
Project Expenditure 1977 - 83: $1,013,751.44

INTERNAL AND ACCESS ROADS IN ISOLATED AREAS

This project's purpose was to upgrade and expand transportation services to and within the remote communities of the North to enhance economic development.

The project, over its period of cost-shared operation, provided the following annual new construction or upgrading of northern roads.

1978-1979

- Construction and upgrading of access and internal roads in Calling Lake, Loon Lake, Wabasca-Desmarais, Fishing Lake, Fort Chipewyan, Gift Lake, Big Prairie and Paddle Prairie.

1979-1980

- Construction and upgrading of access and internal roads in Wabasca, Gift Lake, East Prairie, Big Prairie, Banana Belt Road, Caslan, Kikino, Elizabeth, Fishing Lake and Anzac
- Grading and gravelling of Improvement Districts roads 754 and 750, La Crete trunk, McGowan Creek Road, Fort Vermilion, High Level and Keg River
- Implementation of Phase I of the Land Tenure internal road system in Anzac, Calling Lake and Wabasca
- Upgrading of Secondary Road 686 to Little Buffalo

1980-1981

- Grading secondary roads to Calling Lake, Red Earth, Sunset House, La Crete and Marie Reine
- Upgrading of roads to Black Duck, Silver Valley, Pellworth, Debolt and the Banana Belt Road
- Access roads for opening of public land in isolated areas of Grande Prairie, Fairview, High Level, Peace River and High Prairie
- Completion of Land Tenure Phase II program in Anzac, Calling Lake and Wabasca-Desmarais

In summary, the project constructed and upgraded approximately 518 km of roads, constructed three bridge approaches and provided major subdivision access in communities such as Anzac, Calling Lake and Wabasca. Again, cost-sharing closed in 1981 when Program 2 was totally expended.

Implementing Agency: Alberta Transportation
Project Expenditure 1977 - 83: $6,740,000.00

MÉTIS SETTLEMENT HOUSING

The purpose of the project, also known as Waskayigun Housing, was to provide affordable housing to residents of the eight Métis Settlements. Societies were organized in each of the Settlements and contractual agreements were entered into, whereby funds were made available to cover the cost of materials. The program was a self help program requiring local community management of the housing construction program and individual family participation in construction. Complementary manpower, at times, was provided by the Opportunity Corps, thereby providing on-the-job training in various building trades.

Community elegibility was based on:

- Remoteness
- Overall housing needs
- Community ability to administer a local housing construction program
- The willingness of individual families to contribute to the construction of the dwelling

Client eligibility was based on:

- Households in poor condition
- Households with low annual income
- Households with at least one dependent
- Recognized community residents who owned, leased or had permission to build on land

Table 9 displays the housing provided under the project, 1977-83.

TABLE 9

MÉTIS SETTLEMENT HOUSING
1977 - 83

Settlement	77/78	78/79	79/80	80/81	81/82	82/83
Elizabeth	3	4	5	4	4	6
Fishing Lake	3	4	3	4	4	6
Caslan	2	3	2	8	5	9
Kikino	4	4	5	9	5	10
Gift Lake	4	5	4	4	4	7
Big Prairie	3	4	4	4	4	7
East Prairie	4	4	4	4	4	7
Paddle Prairie	2	3	4	6	6	9
Totals	25	31	31	43	36	61

Again, owing to the limit of funds approved for Program 2, cost-sharing by DREE ended and fiscal year 1980-81.

Implementing Agency: Alberta Housing
Project Expenditure 1977 - 83: $1,850,000.00

ISOLATED COMMUNITIES LOG HOUSING

This project provided affordable housing to residents in the various remote communities of the North. The criteria for eligibility for housing assistance was similar to that outlined in the Métis Settlement Housing program.

Societies were organized in each of the communities, to provide self-help log housing units as outlined in Table 10.

TABLE 10

ISOLATED COMMUNITIES LOG HOUSING
1977 - 83

Communities	77/78	78/79	79/80	80/81	81/82	82/83
Wanyandie Flats				1		1
Muskeg Cee Pee				2		2
Victor Lake				2		2
Susa Creek				2		2
Kamisak				2		2
Joachim Enterprises						1
Grovedale			4			3
Eureka River						4
Cadotte Lake	4	3	3	4	4	3
Little Buffalo	4	4	4	4	4	4
Loon Lake	4	5			4	4
Peerless Lake	3	6	3	5	4	4
Trout Lake	4	3		3	4	4
Chipewyan Lake	4	4	4	2	4	3
Sandy Lake	4	1	5		3	3
Wabasca-Desmarais		4		4	8	5
Calling Lake			4	4	7	4
Owl River					4	4
Janvier		4		2	3	4
Ft. MacKay						1
Ft. Chipewyan			3	2	4	
Boyer Settlement					2	4
Total Units	27	34	30	39	57	64

During the Agreement, the program expanded from seven communities to 26. Owing to the limited funding approved for cost-sharing, however, DREE ended its participation after 1980-81.

Implementing Agency: Alberta Housing
Project Expenditures 1977 - 83: $1,265,564.44

LAND TENURE

The Land Tenure program was initiated in 1975 to grant legal tenure or title to traditional occupants of Crown Land in northern isolated communities. Adults who had occupied residential lots for 18 years and longer received legal title to a two-acre lot at the nominal fee of one dollar. More recent occupants paid an ascending partial scale of the costs of the land.

The objective was to encourage residential land ownership in established settlements of the Green Area. The project outlined a tentative program for 20 communities (Wabasca-Desmarais, Calling Lake, Anzac, Little Buffalo, Chisholm, Trout Lake, Peerless Lake, Loon Lake, Cadotte Lake, Chipewyan Lake, Sandy Lake, Red Earth, Smith, Janvier, Philomena, Imperial Mills, Atikameg, Conklin, Fort Chipewyan and Fort MacKay) and a time line schedule was developed with approximately three communities slated for land tenure per year.

Additional benefits under the program included the preparation of community plans and the designation of community boundaries upon the advice of local elected representatives. Other important aspects included a $350,000 fund for the provision of internal and access roads, and a local government education component for the establishment of advisory councils and local committees.

Table 11 summarizes the land tenure implementation schedule carried out in the five communities under the Alberta North Agreement cost-sharing.

TABLE 11

LAND TENURE PROGRAM
1977 - 83

Community	Population	Estimated No. Lots To Be Surveyed	Titles Issued
Wabasca-Desmarais	892	265	215
Anzac	149	95	61
Calling Lake	350	108	90
Little Buffalo	250	60	16
Chisholm	64	30	13
Total	1,705	558	395

Implementing Agency: Municipal Affairs
Project Expenditure 1977 - 83: $712,677.88

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION ASSOCIATIONS

The purpose of this project was to assist the more remote Rural Electrical Associations (REAs) in northern Alberta to upgrade power distribution systems to an accepted standard.

Major project work was completed in the Perryvale and Landing REAs with 712 and 2,586 poles being replaced in the respective REAs.

In addition to the REA program, the project funded the servicing of 390 lots in the Land Tenure program in Wabasca-Desmarais, Anzac, Chisholm and Little Buffalo.

Cost-sharing occurred during the fiscal years 1977-81 and closed with Program 2 being totally expended.

Implementing Agency: Alberta Utilities and Telecommunications

Project Expenditure 1977 - 83: $841,885.24

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION — ISOLATED COMMUNITIES

The purpose of this project was to provide electrical services to rural and isolated communities in northern Alberta.

During fiscal year 1978-79, a distribution system for the community of Victor Lake was installed.

Implementing Agency: Alberta Utilities and Telecommunications

Project Expenditure 1977 - 83: $75,000.00

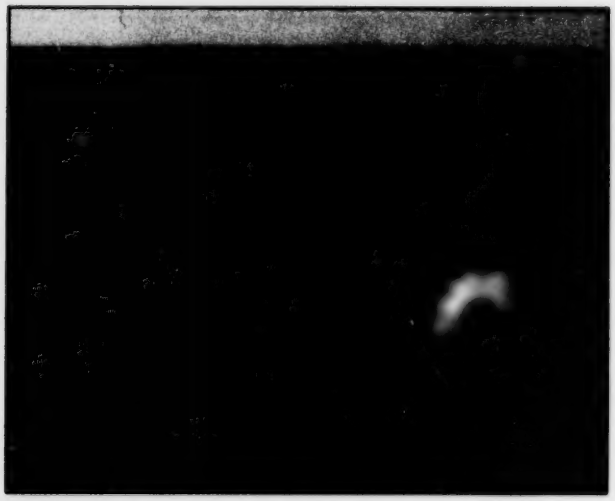
NATURAL GAS SUPPLY

The purpose of this project was to assist in providing sources of natural gas to northern communities to replace high-cost propane.

Under the 1977-83 Agreement, cost-shared activities were undertaken in I.D. 23 to bring a source of natural gas to a point where it could supply (1) the existing distribution system in High Level, and (2) the Northern Lights Gas Co-Op servicing a number of rural residents in I.D. 23. The project involved the design, survey and construction of some 36 miles of transmission line from the Alberta Gas Trunk Line meter site at Paddle Prairie to a valve assembly immediately west of the southwest boundary of the Town of High Level.

Implementing Agency: Alberta Utilities & Telecommunications

Project Expenditure 1977 - 83: $2,081,361.04



PROGRAM 4: SOCIAL ADJUSTMENT AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Program 4 was designed to assist individuals and families who had decided to move from the remote communities to training and/or employment opportunities. Program activities were to complement existing programs by providing special social adjustment counselling and by increasing opportunities for residents of remote communities to gain entry into paraprofessional and professional careers.

EMPLOYMENT COUNSELLING AND RELOCATION SERVICES

The purpose of the Employment Counselling and Relocation Services (ECRS) program was to assist residents of the isolated and semi-isolated communities of northern Alberta to relocate to employment centres in order to more fully participate in the expanding economic opportunities of the region. The project originated in Slave Lake in 1972 under the Lesser Slave Lake Special Area Plan.

During the 1977-83 Agreement, the ECRS program was expanded to nine northern centres: Bonnyville, Fort McMurray, Grand Centre, Grande Prairie, Grimshaw, High Level, Peace River, Slave Lake and Whitecourt. Participants in the program were encouraged to relocate to these centres from numerous home communities across northern Alberta. The program's administrative centre is in Athabasca.

A very important component of the ECRS program was the provision of transitional housing. In order that cost of accommodation would not create a barrier, houses were provided through Alberta Housing Corporation at reasonable rates to aid in the "transition" of the family from its original home to the new community. Rental for the housing units was set according to an agreed-upon scale and was geared to the family's income. An option to purchase, upon successful transition, was made available to encourage permanent residency.

Extensive counselling and orientation services were made available to the relocating families, covering a wide range of topics involving:

Life Style	— explanation of regular work hours, formalized vacation periods, leisure time activities
Employment	— types of jobs, further education, employer/employee relations
Housing Maintenance	— painting, landscaping, general repairs and preventative maintenance
Urban Skills	— use of automobile and public transportation facilities, community organizations, shopping, social services, school attendance, social relationships, town bylaws
Credit	— how to obtain and use, budgeting, and future planning

The program's process involved a number of concrete steps:

Content — Persons interested in the program would either contact a field office directly, or be referred by an agency such as the Alberta Opportunity Corps or by individuals such as social workers or training program instructors.

Assessment and Selection — After a family had indicated formal interest in the program, a housing counsellor prepared an assessment and made a recommendation to a Selection Committee established in each project centre, usually made up of representatives from the Town Council, social service agencies and Native counselling services.

When the program was first initiated, the families selected were generally those in greatest need of assistance. These families tended to be large and headed by older parents with little or no formal education. Often, there proved to be a number of obstacles to their successful relocation, including scarcity of employment options, difficulty in changing schools and a general lack of flexibility in adapting to a new environment. The changes required were often so great that many of the families ended up returning to their original communities disillusioned and frustrated.

After this initial experience, the program emphasis was shifted to families better able to adapt to the new employment and living environment. Families then tended to be younger, with fewer children. Most adults had formal education ranging from grades eight to 12 and, in many cases, both husband and wife had good potential for employment. The children were usually young enough so that changing schools was not a major difficulty. Younger parents with better education found it much easier to obtain suitable employment or training opportunities; employers were more willing to hire younger people; and having some education facilitated entry into apprenticeship programs and other training institutes.

Under the revised system, families with the greatest need were not excluded, but their suitability and adaptibility depended on strongly positive attitudes. Throughout the program, participants who met the challenges of relocation head-on and made an effort to meet new people, fit into the social structure, and constantly pursued employment opportunities were the most successful. In some of the large families in need, educational weaknesses and poor financial positions did not seem to cause great difficulty as long as a positive, aggressive approach was maintained.

Introduction to the Program — Once the family had been accepted, program officials determined whether transitional accommodation would be available by the time the family was ready to relocate. If housing was available, the employment and housing counsellor visited the family and outlined the details of the program. Benefits were explained along with the obligations of the participants, which included regular payment of rent, maintenance of

the house, and finding and holding suitable employment.

Familiarization — When a family confirmed a serious desire to enter the program, they were brought into the relocation community for a familiarization trip. They spent time looking at the community, its housing facilities and social environment, and tried to get a feel for how they might fit into the new setting. They then returned to their home community to think about the relocation.

Employment — Once the family had made the decision to relocate, the breadwinner was brought in to either start a job or look for employment. The employment counsellors provided assistance by locating contacts, making introductions and helping with the completion of job applications. After employment was obtained, the counsellors continued their support by making follow-up visits to check progress and determine if any additional assistance was required. When a person either had a job or was given a sound commitment by a reputable employer, the application was taken out of the pending stage and processed. Obtaining employment or training was a requirement for program entry.

Relocation — The next step was for the family to relocate. Early in the relocation stage, the family was assisted in learning the operation and maintenance of a modern home. Counselling was provided in a variety of other areas which would help the family fit into their new surroundings. A grant could be made available to those families requiring essential household furniture.

Continuing Contact — Counselling and instruction support did not stop once the move had been made, but continued until the family was successfully relocated in all aspects. This continued support was an essential factor contributing to the overall success of the program.

A review of statistical data shows that, over the Agreement period of 1978-83, 594 families were relocated to one of the nine sponsoring communities. Table 13 provides a recent summary of families utilizing the program.

TABLE 13

ECRS PROGRAM
1979 - 83

Community	79/80	80/81	81/82	82/83
Grande Prairie	34	35	18	58
Bonnyville	8	21	13	29
Whitecourt				15
High Level				17
Peace River	10	17	15	25
Grimshaw				5
Slave Lake	51	59	23	56
Ft. McMurray	15	3	5	52
Grand Centre				10
Total	118	135	74	267

Implementing Agency: Alberta Manpower
Project Expenditure 1977 - 83: $1,925,987.58

NATIVE OUTREACH

The purpose of this project was to promote Native employment and provide support services in employment development and job creation programs within industry, unions and various levels of government. The project attempted to enhance the development of Native people in becoming self-sustaining citizens within their own communities by providing funding to the Native Outreach organization.

During the period of cost-sharing, Native Outreach made a significant transition in its counselling service from a job placement agency to a program of intensive career counselling, pre-employment readiness and job search assistance. Native Outreach has played a key and vital role through its ability to place Native people into meaningful employment and training programs, particularly in relation to a number of communities in northern Alberta.

The objectives that Native Outreach sought to implement were:

- To place Native people into employment
- To promote the hiring of Native people into all sectors
- To promote the development of Native people in the greater Canadian society

Its activities focussed on three major areas:

Placement

- Informing clients of employment training, and career development opportunities and motivation of clients to enter career training/enhancement programs
- Liaising with all levels of governments regarding Native employment needs, assistance and opportunities
- Conducting employment and career counselling interviews, registration, referral and follow-up interviews and counselling
- Canvassing employers to determine future employment needs, and filling current job vacancies

Employment Readiness

- Providing pre-employment readiness training to Native people
- Providing individual employment counselling and placement; on-the-job consultation with employers and clients; and liaison between employers, clients and counsellors
- Providing individual and group programs on job search techniques, resumé and application form completion, job interview techniques and on-the-job behavior
- Providing follow-up counselling to clients and employers

Promotion

- Developing promotional activities for information dissemination and promotion of the positive achievements of Natives in the economy
- Arranging or participating in public relations meetings and conferences
- Establishing and maintaining media contacts
- Liaising with appropriate government agencies

The following table outlines recent clients and placements.

TABLE 14

NATIVE OUTREACH
CLIENTS AND PLACEMENTS
1979 - 83

	Clients	Placements
1979/80	4,200	2,364
1980/81	4,988	2,120
1981/82	7,320	1,150
1982/83	11,937	995
Total	28,445	6,629

Implementing Agency: Alberta Manpower
Project Expenditure 1977 - 83: $1,311,604.06

(DREE's share was $459,061.43 as per Joint Committee Decision)

PROGRAM 5: COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The purpose of Program 5 was to assist individuals, groups and community organizations to identify development opportunities, to formulate proposals and to gain socio-economic experience in the local setting.

COLD LAKE REGIONAL SOCIO-ECONOMIC BASE LINE STUDY

This project was Phase I of a major attempt to scientifically measure, over time, the impacts which major resource development would have on communities in northern Alberta and the living patterns of its residents. The information was collected to assist industry, government and the communities to cope with development concerns as they occurred in the Cold Lake heavy oil area and other regions.

Phase I consisted of a consultant group working in the Cold Lake/Bonnyville region for the purpose of developing a sound research design. Two reports were completed: one was an overview of the methodology proposed for the field work and the other provided a detailed description of questionnaire components.

Implementing Agency: Alberta Tourism & Small Business

Project Expenditure 1977 - 83: $29,000.00

RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

The northern Rural Development Projects were designed to provide an opportunity for regional communities to contribute to and participate in the development of their area. Each project area created a Regional Economic Development Council and employed a full-time project coordinator.

During the Agreement, cost-shared funding was provided to four Regional Economic Development Councils (REDCs) in the areas of Lac La Biche, High Level/Fort Vermilion (Northwest), McLennan (Smoky River) and High Prairie (Lesser Slave Lake West). Local contributions were also supplied by participating municipalities and organizations.

The following list highlights some of the activities initiated by the various Councils, 1978-83.

Northwest REDC

- Promotion of opening of new lands in High Level/Fort Vermilion area
- Main street beautification for Rainbow Lake, Fort Vermilion and La Crete
- Assistance in establishing medical-dental clinic in High Level
- Analysis and promotion of off-track grain handling
- Release of Educational Task Force Report
- Assistance in establishing Employment Counselling and Relocation Housing Program
- Assistance in providing natural gas services to La Crete and Fort Vermilion
- Development of community profiles for communities within the region
- Research activities into upgrading radio and television services
- Research and co-ordination work on flood control and drainage of agricultural lands
- Research and co-ordination efforts for expansion of regional air services
- Assistance in obtaining toll-free telephone services to High Level, Fort Vermilion and La Crete
- Assistance in establishing a Native Friendship Centre
- Research into the feasibility of an aviation repair depot
- Research and co-ordination of a compressed natural gas pilot project
- Research into a mixed farming program to establish a meat packing plant

Lac La Biche REDC

- Management services for Beaver Lake Fashions and Sportswear and Lac La Biche Fishermen's Co-op
- Initiation of Whitefish Roe Collection Project
- Establishment of Kikino Wood Products and Kikino Wildlife Ranching Association
- Assistance in obtaining optometrist services in Lac La Biche
- Development activities with Caslan Industrial Wear
- Assistance in establishing a machine shop in Wandering River
- Research and development assistance on secondary road from Lac La Biche to Anzac
- Research and co-ordination in developing a steel rolling mill within the region
- Co-ordination assistance to the Cattle Food Supplement and Fertilizer Program
- Research and development assistance to small businesses within the region
- Assistance in promoting enhanced tv reception within the region
- Business consulting services to new tanner and leather products firm
- Provision of advice in expanding Alberta Wheat Pool facilities
- Provision of co-ordinating skills to develop Petro-Canada crew changes
- Research assistance in developing local clay deposits
- Support for the efforts of a Wild Rice Enhancement Program

Lesser Slave Lake West REDC

- Publishing of a Regional Resources Survey
- Assistance in establishing a Metis Agriculture Co-operative in Big Prairie and East Prairie Hunting Lodge
- Management assistance to East Prairie Wood Products
- Research and development assistance to implement the Arcadia Industrial Park
- Research and co-ordination assistance to UGG in High Prairie
- Preparation of community profiles for the region
- Implementation of Hi Neighbor Welcome Services
- Assistance in a comprehensive tourism study for the

west end of the Lesser Slave Lake area
- Provisicn of research and co-ordination to a proposed anhydrous ammonia fertilizer plant
- Co-ordination of a development enhancement program for High Prairie
- Preparation of major briefs to enhance economic development within the region

Smoky River REDC
- Research and co-ordination of a cattle feedlot feasibility study
- Research and development assistance to various sectors of the honey industry
- Provision of co-ordinating efforts in obtaining additional medical/dental services to region
- Research and development activities to obtain scheduled air services
- Assistance in obtaining a swimming pool in Falher
- Completion of a poplar market study
- Assistance in small business consulting
- Development of community profiles for the region
- Participation in the East Peace Economic Growth Study
- Promotion of the improvement of tourism and recreation in the area
- Assistance in the development of new apartments to alleviate housing shortage
- Promotion to attract a dentist to the area
- Co-ordination of the Falher Commercial Centres Study
- Chairing of an Alfalfa Task Force
- Participation in Peace River Regional Plan

Implementing Agency: Alberta Tourism & Small Business
Project Expenditure 1977 - 83: $585,650.00

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

To assist individual community groups and non-profit societies in various socio-economic activities in northern Alberta, was the purpose of this cost-shared project. Assistance was provided in the form of funding for selected endeavors which did not qualify for support from other program areas.

Funding was allocated towards the upgrading of existing programs to more adequately meet the needs of northern Albertans, as well as to development opportunities with a high potential to enhance living conditions and job opportunities.

Under the Agreement, research and development assistance was provided to 48 projects including:

- I.D. 23 Seed Cleaning Co-op
- Lesser Slave Lake TV Society
- Red River Point Society
- Smith Development Association
- Habitat Enterprises
- Lac La Biche Day Care
- CESO Summer Youth Program
- Camp 3F Association
- Lesser Slave Lake Fish Transportation Subsidy
- Lakeland Industrial Development Society
- Lakeland Forage Association
- Bonny Beaver Child Care Centre
- Lac La Biche Fishermen's Co-op
- Cold Lake Waterfront Development
- Northern Fire Study
- Manning & District TV
- Northwest Vocational Study
- Survey of Isolated Communities
- Native Migration Patterns Study
- Fur Industry Review
- Métis Development Opportunities
- Game Ranching Analysis
- Fort Chipewyan Archaeological Study
- Student Bursary Evaluation
- Northern Overview
- Economic Growth & Social Impact in Peace River Region
- Part-time Farmer Analysis
- Native Outreach Survey
- Grande Prairie Community Impact Study
- Regional & Community Profiles
- Community Impact Methodology in Rapid Growth Communities
- Inventory of Cost and Professional Turn-over in Northern Alberta
- Slave Lake Community Impact Study
- Athabasca Community Impact Study
- Swan Hills Community Impact Study
- Alcoholism: Strategies for Northern Alberta
- Calling Lake Community Assessment Project
- Northwest Agricultural Study
- Early School Leavers Study

Implementing Agency: Alberta Tourism & Small Business
Project Expenditure 1977 - 83: $1,154,236.10

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT — MÉTIS SETTLEMENTS

This project provided assistance to the eight northern Métis Settlements in the implementation of various economic development projects to enhance employment opportunities and economic self-sufficiency.

Among the Agreement's cost-shared projects, the following were included:

Elizabeth	— Agricultural development
	— Management development
	— Sooniyaw Corporation shares
Fishing Lake	— Stake manufacturing
	— Housing construction
	— Sooniyaw Corporation shares
Kikino	— Construction equipment
	— Game ranching
	— Water wells
	— Sooniyaw Corporation shares

Caslan	— Garment factory
	— Cemetery building
	— Sooniyaw Corporation shares
East Prairie	— Sooniyaw Corporation shares
Big Prairie	— Construction equipment
	— Sooniyaw Corporation shares
Gift Lake	— Construction equipment
	— Sooniyaw Corporation shares
Paddle Prairie	— Construction equipment
	— Rodeo facilities
	— Sooniyaw Corporation shares

Implementing Agency: Alberta Municipal Affairs
Project Expenditure 1977 - 83: $1,721,469.48

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT — LESSER SLAVE LAKE AREA

This project ensured a means of supplying the targeted area (Sawridge I.R., Swan River I.R., Kinuso, Canyon Creek, Widewater, Wagner, Slave Lake and the Weldwood Plant) with an economical and efficient source of natural gas, thereby allowing the economic sectors of the regional economy to expand and enhance employment opportunities.

In the forestry sector, the project allowed Weldwood to expand to a four-shift operation. The resulting overall employment opportunities were estimated to have increased by 210 permanent positions. In the agricultural sector, energy services were to be made available to 207 farming operations.

Implementing Agency: Alberta Utilities & Telecommunications
Project Expenditure 1977 - 83: $600,000.00

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT — NATIVE ASSOCIATIONS

The purpose of this project was to provide funding assistance to northern Native associations and groups to enhance employment opportunities and community economic self-sufficiency.

Examples of projects cost-shared included:

- Grande Cache Mihiti Contractors
- Fort Chipewyan Delta Native Fishermen's Association
- CESO Projects in various areas
- Big Prairie, Gift Lake and Paddle Prairie Maintenance Shops
- East Prairie Construction Equipment
- Gift Lake Housing Development Project
- Market Assessment for Poplar Products

Implementing Agency: Alberta Native Affairs
Project Expenditure 1977 - 83: $510,433.16

IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES

The following chart provides a summary of the Alberta line departments which implemented the various projects under the Alberta North Agreement, 1977-83. Their excellent co-operation and assistance was essential to the successful cost-sharing process.

TABLE 15

COST-SHARED PROJECTS BY PROVINCIAL DEPARTMENT
1977 - 83

DEPARTMENT	TOTAL EXPENDITURE
Education	$ 6,393,401
Environment	2,993,511
Housing	3,115,564
Manpower	15,675,115
Municipal Affairs	3,713,146
Native Affairs	510,433
Tourism and Small Business	1,768,886
Transportation	6,740,000
Utilities and Telecommunications	3,598,244
TOTAL	$44,508,300

ASSESSMENT

In late 1980, a consultant's external mid-term assessment of the Alberta North Agreement was completed. At the conclusion of the Agreement, a major review meeting was also held with all of the implementing Federal and Provincial departments and agencies.

Both the external assessment report and the agency review concluded that the co-ordinated programming approach under the Alberta North Agreement was valuable and should be continued. All evaluators felt much had been achieved, but that most activities must be maintained and enhanced. Many specifics were enunciated for consideration in possible renewal discussions under a new Canada/Alberta General Development Agreement. Overall, however, it was felt that the co-operative Alberta North Agreement strategy was sound.

The Agreement was seen as the second phase of a longer-term approach to the development of northern Alberta. It stressed expansion of the options available to remote residents, and programming proved to be selective and responsive. The Agreement also had a subregional focus and experience demonstrated that people in the remote North were best able to gain access to development options when they occurred in or near their home subregion.

It was also confirmed that three levels of development activity were necessary in each subregion. First, it was necessary to provide people with information on the range of options open to them, so that they could make an informed choice. This acitivity required time and the opportunity for people to learn, through experience, the various ways and means of achieving individual and community goals. Programming was also required to provide remote north residents with experience in the wage economy. It was also recognized that individuals and families must satisfy their basic health and safety needs before they are likely to consider participation in socio-economic development. Basic community services and infrastructure were seen as key elements in creating a stable community and home environment for economic development. Programming to upgrade local management and decision-making was also an essential part of the first level of development activity.

The second required level of activity was to assist the small but significant number of remote residents who chose employment in the industrial labor force. This level of activity was required to provide special measures in overcoming social, educational and work-skill barriers. Programming was selective, and supplemented existing federal and provincial activities.

The third level of activity addressed the majority of northern residents who chose to continue living in the remote area. These people required assistance to explore development opportunities in the local setting. It was shown that existing cash income could be supplemented through various traditional economic activities ranging from trapping and fishing to participation in Native crafts and other types of cottage industry. New initiatives were explored in such endeavors as game ranching, tourism, and wild rice harvesting. The emphasis of this third level of activity was on providing assistance to individuals, groups and communities to help them identify and profit from development opportunities in their community or subregion.